

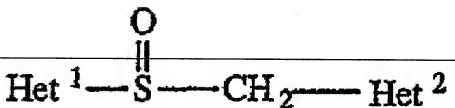
**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

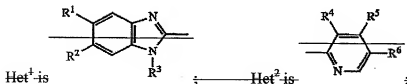
Listing of Claims:

1.-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting the secretion of IgE-dependent histamine-releasing factor (HRF) in a patient, wherein the method comprises administering to the patient an effective amount of a benzimidazole compound selected from the group consisting of omeprazole, lansoprazole, pantoprazole, and rabeprazole ~~having which has proton pump inhibitor activity and comprises a lipid soluble weak base of formula:~~



wherein:



$R^1$  and  $R^2$  which may be the same or different each independently represents hydrogen, methoxy, or difluoromethoxy;  $R^3$  represents hydrogen or sodium; and  $R^4$ ,  $5^5$  and  $R^6$ , which may be the same or different, each independently represents hydrogen, methyl, methoxy, methoxypropoxy, or trifluoroethoxy.

18.-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 19 17, wherein the method comprises the additional administration of at least one of fenofibrate, oleic acid, catechin, scopadulciol, pentagalloyl glucose, bufalin, bafilomycin and concanamycin.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the method comprises treatment of an allergic disease caused by HRF.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the allergic disease caused by HRF comprises at least one of asthma, urticaria, anaphylaxis, allergic rhinitis, allergic bronchiectasis, hay fever, atopic dermatitis and malaria.

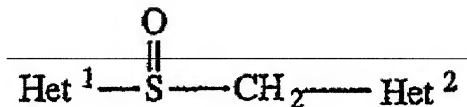
23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the allergic disease caused by HRF comprises at least one of asthma, urticaria, allergic bronchiectasis, and atopic dermatitis.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the allergic disease caused by HRF comprises at least one of anaphylaxis, allergic rhinitis, and hay fever.

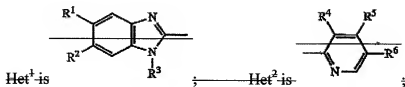
25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the allergic disease caused by HRF comprises malaria.

26.-36. (Canceled)

37. (Currently amended) A method of treating an allergic disease caused by IgE-dependent histamine-releasing factor (HRF) in a patient, wherein the allergic disease comprises at least one of asthma, urticaria, anaphylaxis, allergic rhinitis, allergic bronchiectasis, hay fever, atopic dermatitis and malaria and the method comprises administering to the patient an effective amount of a benzimidazole selected from the group consisting of omeprazole, lansoprazole, pantoprazole, and rabeprazole ~~compound which has proton pump inhibitor activity and~~ comprises a lipid-soluble weak base of formula:



wherein:



$\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  which may be the same or different each independently represents hydrogen, methoxy, or difluoromethoxy;  $\text{R}^3$  represents hydrogen or sodium; and  $\text{R}^4$ ,  $\text{R}^5$  and  $\text{R}^6$ , which may be the same or different, each independently represents hydrogen, methyl, methoxy, methoxypropoxy, or trifluoroethoxy.

38. (Canceled)

39. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the method comprises an additional administration of at least one of fenoctimine, oleic acid, catechin, scopadulciol, pentagalloyl glucose, bufalin, bafilomycin and concanamycin.